

most outrageously Insult and Abuse divers Persons of Credit and Distruction with most opprobrious Names, and abusive Language, as well in open Court sitting in the Seat of Justice, as without; and the said General Assembly do particularly Charge that one *Arthur Mabson* being a Member of the General Assembly, at a General Court held at *Edenton* on the last Tuesday in *July* 1739, had Articles exhibited against him for a certain Contempt offered to the said Court by the said *Mabson*, but the said *Mabson* appearing and being examined was found by the said Chief Justice to be no ways Guilty of any Contempt [24] whatsoever, and was accordingly acquitted by the said Chief Justice, whereupon the said *Mabson* being fairly acquitted of the said Contempt as abovesaid scrupled to pay the Fees of the Court, and a dispute between the Attorneys arising, whether the said *Mabson* ought to pay Costs, the said Chief Justice without any Affront or Indignity offer'd to him by the said *Mabson*, did in a most violent manner Villify and Abuse the said *Mabson*, calling him Rogue, Villian, notorious Rogue, and treacherous Villian, altho' the said *Mabson* is well known to be a worthy Man, a Person of very good Repute, and a Man of a good Estate.

16. " That the said *William Smith* having been advanced to be Chief Justice of this Province and President of His Majesty's Council, ought to be a Person of Virtue, and of a discreet, sober and grave Conversation, giving good example to others, & to Demean himself according to the Dignity of his Office, yet nevertheless the said Chief Justice by the notorious Immorality of his Life, and his constant prophane Cursing and Swearing, doth daily offer indignity to Almighty God, and give just Occasion of great Scandal and Offence.

17. " That all the Articles foregoing are only a few Instances out of many of the said Chief Justice his violent, illegal and arbitrary Proceedings, for his Exactions and Extortions are more burthensome than the General Tax of the whole Province, every Corner of the Country is fill'd with his Oppressions, and all the People cry aloud for Justice from your Excellency's Hands.

" And the said General Assembly do most humbly pray your Excellency that the said Chief Justice may be immediately put to Answer all and singular the said Articles of Complaint, and that a reasonable Time during this present Sessions of Assembly,